Michigan Deptartment of Treasury 496 (2-04)

| ☐ Cit | | pe wnsh | | Local Government Na North Star Ac | ^{me} ademy | | Coun | rquette | |
|--------------------|---|----------------------|--|--|--|---|---|--|--|
| Audit Da 6/30/0 |)4 | | Opinion Date 9/19/04 | 11/ | Accountant Report Submi | | | | |
| Financia | re audited ance with al Stateme rm that: | the the interest the | financial statements of this Statements of the Govern for Counties and Local Units | local unit of gover mental Accounting of Government in | nment and rendered Standards Board (<i>Michigan</i> by the Mich | an opinion o GASB) and igan Departn | on financial s the <i>Uniform</i> nent of Treas | statements prepar Reporting Form sury. | |
| 1. We | have com | plied | i with the <i>Bulletin for the Au</i> | dits of Local Units o | of Government in Mic | <i>higan</i> as revis | sed. | | |
| 2. We | are certific | ed pu | ublic accountants registered | to practice in Mich | igan. | | | | |
| We furth commer | ner affirm t nts and rec | he fo | ollowing. "Yes" responses ha nendations | ave been disclosed | in the financial state | ments, includ | ing the notes | s, or in the report | |
| 'ou mus | t check the | e app | olicable box for each item be | elow. | | | | | |
| Yes | ✓ No | 1. | Certain component units/fo | unds/agencies of th | ne local unit are exclu | ded from the | financial sta | atements. | |
| Yes | ₽ No | | There are accumulated do 275 of 1980). | | | | | | |
| Yes | ✓ No | 3. | There are instances of no amended). | on-compliance with | the Uniform Accou | nting and Bu | udgeting Act | (P.A. 2 of 1968 | |
| Yes | ₩ No | 4. | The local unit has violate requirements, or an order is | d the conditions of ssued under the Er | of either an order is nergency Municipal L | sued under i | the Municipa | al Finance Act or | |
| Yes | ₽ No | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | No | 6. | The local unit has been deli | inquent in distributi | ng tax revenues that | were collecte | | | |
| Yes | ₽ No | | The local unit has violated pension benefits (normal cocredits are more than the normal coredits are more th | cara) in the current | vear, if the high ic | more than 10 | 100/ f | | |
|] Yes | ₽ No | 8. | The local unit uses credit (MCL 129.241). | | | | | | |
|]Yes | ₩ No | 9. | The local unit has not adopt | ed an investment p | olicy as required by F | P.A. 196 of 19 | 997 (MCL 12 | 9.95). | |
| | | | following: | | | Enclosed | To Be Forwarded | Not Required | |
| e letter | of comme | nts a | and recommendations. | | | | | V | |
| | | | eral financial assistance pro | grams (program au | ıdits). | | | V | |
| ngle Aud | dit Reports | (ASI | LGU). | | | | | \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ | |
| rtified Pub | lic Accountar | t (Firm | n Name) , HILL, & NARDI, PC | | | | | | |
| eet Addres | SLOFF S | | | | City | | * | IP. | |
| | ignature | | | | MARQUETTE | N | VII 4 | 9855 | |

Audited Basic Financial Statements Required Supplementary Information And Other Financial Information

NORTH STAR ACADEMY

June 30, 2004

Audited Basic Financial Statements Required Supplementary Information And Other Financial Information

NORTH STAR ACADEMY

June 30, 2004

Audited Financial Statements

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North Star Academy is a Charter School Academy located in Ishpeming, Michigan. North Star Academy's Management Discussion and Analysis is intended to assist the reader in focusing on significant financial issues, provide an overview of the Academy's financial activity, and identify changes in the Academy's financial position and it's ability to address future operations. It also identifies any material deviations from the financial plan and identifies individual fund issues or concerns. This is a requirement of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 34 (GASB 34) "Basic Financial Statements – and Management's Discussion and Analysis – for State and Local Governments" and is intended to provide the financial results for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2004.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- North Star Academy's net assets were reported for the first time under GASB 34. As such, no comparison with prior years will be made. In future years, comparative information will be presented in various schedules throughout the MD&A. Net Assets for North Star Academy as a whole were reported at \$125,056
- For the year ended June 30, 2004, North Star Academy's expenses were \$549,835.
 Revenues from all sources totaled \$572,246, resulting in an increase in net assets of \$22,411.
- The general fund reported an increase of \$25,102 before other financing sources (uses). This is \$11,823 or 89% higher than the budgeted increase of \$13,279. This was a result of revenues being \$14,281 lower and expenses being \$26,104 lower than the budgeted amounts.

USING THIS ANNUAL REPORT

This annual report consists of a series of financial statements and notes to those statements. These statements are organized so the reader can understand North Star Academy financially as a whole. The *Government-wide Financial Statement's* Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities provide information about the activities of the Academy as a whole and present a longer-term view of those finances. The fund financial statements present the next level of detail. For governmental activities, these statements tell how those services were financed in the short term as well as what remains for future operations. The fund financial statements also report the Academy's operations in more detail than the government-wide statements by providing information about the Academy's most significant funds – the General Fund and the Food Service Fund.

Reporting the Academy as a Whole - Government-Wide Financial Statements

The Government-wide statements are new and provide a perspective of the Academy as a whole. These statements use the full accrual basis of accounting, which is similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. All of the current year's revenues and expenditures are taken into account regardless of when cash is received or paid.

These two statements report the Academy's net assets and changes to those net assets. The Academy's net assets – the difference between assets and liabilities – is one way to measure the Academy's financial health, or financial position. Over time, increases or decreases in the Academy's net assets – as reported in the Statement of Activities – are indicators of whether its

financial health is improving or deteriorating. The relationship between revenues and expenditures is the Academy's operating results. However, the Academy's goal is to provide services to the students, not to generate profits as private-sector companies do. One must consider other non-financial factors, such as the quality of education provided, the safety of the Academy and the condition of the Academy's capital assets, to assess the overall financial health of the Academy.

The Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities report the governmental activities for the Academy, which encompass all the Academy's services, including instruction, supporting services, community services, and food services. Unrestricted State Aid (foundation allowance revenue), and State and Federal grants finance most of these activities.

Reporting the Academy's Most Significant Funds - Fund Financial Statements

The fund financial statements are reported using the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under this method, financial assets are recorded they are "measurable" and "available". Expenditures are accounted for in the period those goods and services are used in school programs. In addition, capital assets purchased are recorded as capital outlay expenditures and not recorded as an asset. Debt payments are recorded as expenditures in the current year and future debt obligations are not recorded.

Governmental Fund Types

<u>General Fund:</u> The General Fund is the general operating fund and, is used primarily to account for the educational requirements of the Academy.

School Service Fund: The School Service Fund is comprised of Food Service.

The Academy as a Whole

Table 1 provides a summary of the Academy's Net Assets as of June 30, 2004

Table 1 Net Assets

| | | Governmental Activities |
|---|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Current and Other Assets Other Non-Current Assets Capital Assets, Net | | \$321,017 0 0 |
| | Total Assets | 321,017 |
| Current Liabilities Long-Term Liabilities | Total Liabilities | 195,961 0 195,961 |
| Net Assets: Invested in capital assets, net of Restricted Unrestricted | | 0 82,000 43,056 |
| | Total Net Assets | \$125,056 |

The Academy's net assets were \$125,056 at June 30, 2004. Restricted net assets are reported separately to show legal constraints from debt covenants and enabling legislation that limit the Academy's ability to use those assets for day-to-day operations. The remaining amount of net assets of \$43,056 was unrestricted.

The \$43,056 in unrestricted net assets of governmental activities represents the accumulated results of all past years' operations. The operating results of the General Fund will have a significant impact on the change in unrestricted net assets from year to year.

The results of this year's operations for the Academy as a whole are reported in the Statement of Activities (See Table 2), which shows the changes in net assets for fiscal year 2004. Since this is the first year the Academy has prepared financial statements following GASB Statement No. 34, revenue and expenditure comparison to fiscal year 2003 is not available.

Table 2 Changes in Net Assets

| | Governmental Activities |
|--|----------------------------|
| Revenues | |
| Program Revenues: | |
| Charges for Services | \$3,088 |
| Operating grants and contributions | 119,546 |
| General Revenues: | , |
| State sources not restricted to specific program | 430,339 |
| Investments earnings | 506 |
| Local | 18,767 |
| Total Revenues | 572,246 |
| Program Expenses: | |
| Instruction | 232,042 |
| Supporting services | 298,839 |
| Community services | 1,753 |
| Food service activities | 10,674 |
| Facility acquisition and other transactions | 6,527 |
| Total Expenses | 549,835 |
| Increase (decrease) in net assets | 22,411 |
| Net assets, beginning | 102,645 |
| Net Assets, Ending | \$125,056 |

As reported in the Statement of Activities the cost of all our governmental activities this year was \$549,835. Certain activities were partially funded from those who benefited from the programs (\$3,088) or by other governmental organizations that subsidized certain programs with grants (\$119,546). North Star Academy paid for the remaining "public benefit" portion of our governmental activities with \$430,339 in State Foundation Allowance and with other miscellaneous revenues.

The Academy experienced an increase in net assets for the year of \$22,411 due to cost control measures.

Table 3 presents the cost of each of the Academy's largest activities as well as each program's net cost (total cost less revenues generated by the activities). The net cost shows the financial burden that each function placed on the Academy's operation.

Table 3
Governmental Activities

| _ | Total Cost of Services | Net Cost of Services |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Instruction | \$232,042 | \$118,891 |
| Supporting Services | 298,839 | 297,339 |
| Community Services | 1,753 | 1,753 |
| Food Service Activities | 10,674 | 2,691 |
| Facility Acquisition and Other Trans | 6,527 | 6,527 |
| Totals | \$549,835 | \$427,201 |

The net cost shows the financial burden that was placed on the State by each of these functions. Since unrestricted State aid constitutes 76% of the Academy's operating revenue sources, the Board of Education and Administration must annually evaluate the needs of the Academy and balance those needs with the State-prescribed available financial resources.

General Fund Budgetary Highlights

Over the course of the year, the Academy's Board revises its budget as it attempts to deal with changes in revenues and expenditures. State law requires that the budget be amended to ensure that expenditures do not exceed appropriations. A schedule showing the Academy's original and final budget amounts compared with amounts actually paid and received is provided in required supplemental information of these financial statements.

BUDGETED REVENUES:

General Fund Revenues changed from Original to Final Budget during the year as follows:

| | | | Budget Va | riance |
|-------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------|---------|
| | Original | Final | | |
| | <u>Budget</u> | <u>Budget</u> | Amount | Percent |
| Total | <u>\$ 519,402</u> | \$ 578,544 | \$ 59,142 | 11.4% |

North Star Academy's final budgeted revenues differed from the original budget as follows:

Increased by \$59,142 or 11.4%

The significant increase in the budgeted revenue can be attributed mainly to USF revenue (\$26,162) and State Aid. The USF revenue was not budgeted for in the original budget. Over the course of the year State Aid revenues were adjusted based on additional information, such as student counts, obtained during the course of the year.

BUDGETED EXPENDITURES

General Fund Expenditures changed from the Original to Final budget during the year as follows:

| | | | | | | Budget Variance | | | | | |
|-------|--------|---------|--------|---------|--------|---|---------|--|--|--|--|
| | 0 | riginal | | Final | | *************************************** | | | | | |
| | Budget | | Budget | | Amount | | Percent | | | | |
| Total | \$ | 489,462 | \$ | 565,265 | \$ | 75.803 | 15.5% | | | | |

North Star Academy's final budgeted expenditures differed from the original budget as follows:

Increased by \$75,803 or 15.5%

The significant increase in the budgeted expenditures can be attributed to the Academy more accurately budgeting the Academy's actual expenditures for the year. One of the contributing factors was that the USF communication expenditures (\$26,162) were omitted in the original budget. Another contributing factor were grant budgets. Grant budgets are put on as grants are awarded during the course of the year.

ACTUAL REVENUES:

The General Fund Actual Revenues differed from the Final Budget as follows:

| | | | | | Varian | ce | |
|-------|--------|---------|-----------|----------------|----------------|---------|--|
| | | | | Final | | | |
| | Actual | | Budget | | Amount | Percent | |
| Total | \$ | 564,263 | <u>\$</u> | <u>578,544</u> | \$ (14,281) | (2.5%) | |

North Star Academy's final budgeted revenues differed from the actual revenues as follows:

• Decreased by \$14,281 or 2.5% less than the final budget.

The significant variance in revenue can be attributed mainly to Local Sources (\$10,864). This was due to actual USF reimbursement being less then anticipated.

ACTUAL EXPENDITURES

General Fund Actual Expenditures differed from the Final budget as follows:

| | | | | | Variar | nce | | |
|-------|---|----------|---------------------|---|----------|-----------|--|--|
| | | Actual | Final Budget | | Amount | Percent | | |
| | *************************************** | 7 101001 | <u>augut</u> | *************************************** | Amount | 1 CICCIII | | |
| Total | <u>\$</u> | 539,161 | \$ 565,265 | \$ | (26,104) | (4.8%) | | |

North Star Academy's final budgeted expenditures differed from the actual revenues as follows:

Decreased by \$26,104 or 4.8% less than the final budget.

The significant variance in expenditures can be attributed mainly to USF expenditures budgeted but not incurred during the course of the year (\$14,056).

Capital Assets and Debt Administration

Capital Assets

Under the new GASB 34 requirement, North Star Academy has established a capital assets threshold of \$5,000. As of June 30, 2004, the Academy has only one asset that was purchased that was greater then \$5,000. This asset is fully depreciated. For further information, refer to Note C of the financial statements.

Debt

At the end of this year, the Academy had a \$140,000 state anticipation note that was repaid on August 20, 2004. A new note of \$135,000 was issued and matures in August 2005. See Note E to the financial statements.

Economic Factors and Next Year's Budgets

The Academy's elected officials and administration considered many factors when setting the Academy's fiscal year 2005 budget. One of the most important factors affecting the budget is the student count. The state foundation revenue is determined by multiplying the blended student count by the foundation allowance per pupil. The 2005 fiscal year budget was adopted in June 2004, based on an estimated student count for fiscal year 2004-2005. State Aid represents 82 percent of the total General Fund revenues. Based on early enrollment data at the start of the 2004-2005 school year, we anticipate that the fall student count will be close to the estimates used in creating the 2005 fiscal budget. Once the final student count and related per pupil funding is validated, State law requires the Academy to amend the budget, if actual government resources are not sufficient to fund original appropriations.

The State budget continues to be an area of concern. State revenues are falling short of projections, which could mean reduced funding at the local level.

Contacting the Academy's Financial Management

This financial report is designated to provide the citizens, taxpayers, customers, and investors and creditors with a general overview of the Academy's finances and to demonstrate the Academy's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact North Star Academy, 335 S. Pine Street, P.O. Box 577 Ishpeming, Michigan 49849.



MAKELA, TOUTANT, HILL & NARDI, P.C.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

201 West Bluff Street Marquette, Michigan 49855

Members
American Institute of CPA's
Michigan Association of CPA's

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

Board of Education North Star Academy Ishpeming, Michigan

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of North Star Academy, (Academy), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2004, which collectively comprise the Academy's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Academy's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinions.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and each major fund of North Star Academy, as of June 30, 2004, and the respective changes in financial position thereof for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

As described in Note A, the Academy has implemented a new financial reporting model, as required by the provisions of GASB Statement No. 34, Basic Financial Statements--and Management's Discussion and Analysis--for State and Local Governments, as of June 30, 2004.

The management's discussion and analysis and budgetary comparison information on pages 27 and 28, are not a required part of the basic financial statements but are supplementary information required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.



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Board of Education North Star Academy

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated September 19, 2004, on our consideration of the Academy's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be read in conjunction with this report in considering the results of our audit.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements that collectively comprise North Star Academy's basic financial statements. The individual fund financial statements are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Matela, Toutant, Hill & Naudi, P.C.

September 19, 2004

STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS

NORTH STAR ACADEMY

June 30, 2004

| Activ | rities |
|---|------------------|
| CURRENT ASSETS Cash and cash equivalents Investments Receivables: | 16,811 82,137 |
| Due from other governmental units 1 Other | 28,177 1,638 |
| Prepaid expenses Deposit in escrow | 10,254 82,000 |
| | 21,017 |
| NONCURRENT ASSETS | |
| Capital assets Less: accumulated depreciation | 6,447 |
| TOTAL NONCURRENT ASSETS | (6,447) |
| | |
| TOTAL ASSETS3 | 21,017 |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES | |
| | 19,677 |
| _ | 27,643 |
| State anticipation note 1 Accrued interest | 40,000 3,141 |
| Deferred revenue | 5,500 |
| TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES 1 | 95,961 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES 1 | 95,961 |
| | |
| NET ASSETS Restricted | |
| | 82,000 |
| | 43,056 |
| | 25,056 |

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

NORTH STAR ACADEMY

Year Ended June 30, 2004

| | | | Program Revenues | | | Governmental Activities Net (Expense) | | |
|---|----------|------------------------------|-------------------------|------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------|--------------------------------------|
| | Expenses | | Charges for Services | | Operating Grants and Contributions | | Re C | venue and hanges in let Assets |
| FUNCTIONS/PROGRAMS: | | | | | | | | |
| Governmental Activities: Instruction and instructional support Support services | \$ | 232,042 298,839 | \$ | 2,385 | \$ | 1,000 | \$ | (118,891) (297,339) |
| Food services | | 10,674 | | 203 | | 7,780 | | (2,691) |
| Community service direction Facilities acquisition and other transactions | | 1,753 6,527 | | | | | | (1,753) (6,527) |
| r domines dequisition and other transactions | _ | 0,327 | | | | | | (6,527) |
| TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES | \$ | 549,835 | \$ | 3,088 | \$ | 119,546 | | (427,201) |
| | | NERAL RE | | | | | | 40 707 |
| | | cal revenue | | | trio | tod | | 18,767 |
| | | ate of Michi erest and ir | - | | | | | 430,339 506 |
| | | | | | - | VENUES | | 449,612 |
| | | | | | | | | 110,012 |
| | | | | | | ASSETS | | 22,411 |
| Ne | et as | ssets at beo | ginnir | ng of year | r, as | s restated | | 102,645 |
| | | NET A | SSET | rs at en | 1D (| OF YEAR | \$ | 125,056 |

BALANCE SHEET--GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

NORTH STAR ACADEMY

June 30, 2004

| ASSETS | General Fund | Special Revenue Food Service Fund | Total Governmental Funds | | |
|---|---|---|--------------------------------|--|--|
| Cash and cash equivalents Investments Due from other governmental units Other receivables Prepaid expense Deposit in escrow | \$ 16,729 82,137 128,177 1,638 10,254 82,000 | \$ 82 | \$ | 16,811 82,137 128,177 1,638 10,254 82,000 | |
| TOTAL ASSETS | \$ 320,935 | \$ 82 | \$ | 321,017 | |
| LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES | | | | | |
| LIABILITIES Accounts payable Accrued salaries and withholdings State anticipation note Accrued interest Deferred revenue | \$ 19,595 27,643 140,000 3,141 5,500 | \$ 82 | \$ | 19,677 27,643 140,000 3,141 5,500 | |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES | 195,879 | 82 | | 195,961 | |
| FUND BALANCES Reserved for: | | | | | |
| Purchase of land Unreserved | 82,000 43,056 | | | 82,000 43,056 | |
| TOTAL FUND BALANCES | 125,056 | 0 | | 125,056 | |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES | \$ 320,935 | \$ 82 | \$ | 321,017 | |

RECONCILIATION OF GOVERNMENTAL FUND BALANCE SHEET TO THE STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS

NORTH STAR ACADEMY

June 30, 2004

Total fund balance--governmental funds

\$ 125,056

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Net Assets are different because:

Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported as assets in governmental funds. Capital assets at end of year consist of:

Cost of capital assets Accumulated depreciation \$ 6,447 (6,447)

0

TOTAL NET ASSETS OF GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES

\$ 125,056

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES--GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

NORTH STAR ACADEMY

Year Ended June 30, 2004

| | General Fund | Special Revenue Food Service Fund | Total Governmental Funds |
|--|--|---|--|
| REVENUES Local sources State sources Federal sources Interest on investments Miscellaneous TOTAL REVENUES | \$ 24,142 464,009 54,645 506 20,961 564,263 | \$ 203 328 7,452 | \$ 24,345 464,337 62,097 506 20,961 572,246 |
| TOTAL NEVEROLS | 304,203 | 7,903 | 5/2,246 |
| EXPENDITURES Current: Instruction and instructional support services Supporting services Community services Facilities acquisition and other transactions Food service | 232,042 298,839 1,753 6,527 | 10,674 | 232,042 298,839 1,753 6,527 10,674 |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURES | 539,161 | 10,674 | 549,835 |
| EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES | 25,102 | (2,691) | 22,411 |
| OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES) Operating transfers in Operating transfers out | (2,691) | 2,691 | 2,691 (2,691) |
| TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES) | (2,691) | 2,691 | 0 |
| NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES | 22,411 | 0 | 22,411 |
| Fund balance at beginning of year, as previously reported RestatementSee Note M | 20,645 82,000 | | 20,645 82,000 |
| Fund balances at beginning of year (as restated) | 102,645 | 0 | 102,645 |
| FUND BALANCES AT END OF YEAR | \$ 125,056 | \$ 0 | \$ 125,056 |

RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUE, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

NORTH STAR ACADEMY

Year Ended June 30, 2004

| Net change in fund balancesgovernmental funds | \$ 22,411 |
|--|--------------|
| Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Activities are different because: | 0 |
| CHANGE IN NET ASSETS OF GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES | \$ 22,411 |

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NORTH STAR ACADEMY

June 30, 2004

NOTE A-SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements of North Star Academy (Academy) have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) as applicable to government units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is responsible for establishing GAAP for state and local units of government through its pronouncements. Governments are also required to follow the pronouncements of the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued through November 30, 1989, that do not conflict with or contradict GASB pronouncements. The more significant policies established in GAAP and used by the Academy are discussed below:

In June 1999, the GASB issued Statement No. 34, Basic Financial Statements--and Management's Discussion and Analysis--for State and Local Governments. Some of the significant changes in the Statement include the following:

- For the first time the financial statements include:
 - 1. A management's discussion and analysis (MD&A) section, which provides an analysis of the Academy's overall financial position and results of operations; and
 - 2. Financial statements prepared using full accrual accounting for all of the Academy's activities.
- A change in the fund financial statements to focus on the major funds.

These and other changes are reflected in the accompanying financial statements (including notes to financial statements). The Academy has elected to implement the provisions of the Statement in the current year.

Reporting Entity

The Academy was chartered by Northern Michigan University to provide middle school and secondary education for students living in Marquette County. A five-member Board of Education appointed by Northern Michigan University has control of all operations of the Academy.

In evaluating how to define the Academy for financial reporting purposes, management has considered all potential component units. The decision not to include a potential component unit in the reporting entity was made by applying the criteria set forth in accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The basic, but not the only, criterion for including a potential component unit within the reporting entity is the governing body's ability to

NOTE A-SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES-Continued

exercise oversight responsibility. The most significant manifestation of this ability is financial interdependency. Other manifestations of the ability to exercise oversight responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the selection of governing authority, the designation of management; the ability to significantly influence operations; and accountability for fiscal matters. A second criterion used in evaluating potential component units is the scope of public service. Application of this criterion involves considering whether the activity benefits the Academy and/or its constituents, or whether the activity is conducted within the geographic boundaries of the Academy and is generally available to its constituents. A third criterion used to evaluate potential component units for inclusion or exclusion from the reporting entity is the existence of special financing relationships, regardless of whether the Academy is able to exercise oversight responsibilities.

Based upon the application of the criteria described above, the financial statements of the North Star Academy contain all the funds controlled by the Academy's Board of Education as no other entity meets the criteria to be considered a component unit of the Academy nor is the Academy a component unit of another entity.

Basic Financial Statements--Government-Wide Financial Statements

The Academy's basic financial statements include both government-wide and fund financial statements. Both the government-wide and fund financial statements categorize primary activities as either governmental or business-type. The Academy's instruction, support, and community services are classified as governmental activities. The Academy does not have any business-type activities.

In the government-wide Statement of Net Assets, the governmental activities column is presented on a consolidated basis, and is reported on a full accrual, economic resource basis, which recognizes all long-term assets and receivables as well as long-term debt and obligations. The Academy's net assets are reported as either invested in capital assets, net of related debt, restricted, or unrestricted.

The government-wide Statement of Activities reports both the gross and net cost of each of the Academy's functions. General government revenues (property taxes, state aid, etc.) support the functions. The Statement of Activities reduces gross expenses (including depreciation) by related program revenues, operating and capital grants directly associated with the function.

The government-wide focus emphasizes the sustainability of the Academy as an entity and the change in the Academy's net assets resulting from the current year's activities.

NOTE A-SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES-Continued

Basic Financial Statements--Fund Financial Statements

The financial transactions of the Academy are reported in individual funds in the fund financial statements. Each fund is accounted for by providing a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprise its assets, liabilities, reserves, fund equity, revenues, and expenditures/expenses. The following fund types are utilized by the Academy:

<u>Governmental Funds</u>: The focus of the governmental funds' measurement is upon the determination of financial position and changes in financial position (sources, uses, and balances of financial resources) rather than upon net income. The following is a description of the governmental funds of the Academy:

<u>General Fund</u>: The General Fund is the primary operating fund and, accordingly, it is used to account for all financial resources except those accounted for in another fund.

<u>Special Revenue Funds</u>: The Special Revenue Fund is used to account for financial resources that provide hot lunch services.

The emphasis in fund financial statements is on the major funds. Non-major funds by category are summarized into a single column for presentation. GASB Statement No. 34 sets forth minimum criteria (percentage of the assets, liabilities, revenues, or expenditures/expenses of either fund category or the government combined) for the determination of major funds.

Basis of Accounting

The basis of accounting refers to the point at which revenues and expenditures/expenses are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. It relates to the timing of the measurements made regardless of the measurement focus applied.

Government activities in government-wide financial statements, and fiduciary fund financial statements are presented on the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recognized when incurred.

Governmental fund financial statements are presented on the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recorded when susceptible to accrual; that is, when both measurable and available. "Available" means collectible within the current period or within sixty days after year-end. Expenditures are generally recognized under the modified accrual basis of accounting when the related liability is incurred, except for principal and interest on general obligation debt, if any, is recognized when due.

NOTE A-SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES-Continued

Financial Statement Amounts

<u>Cash and Cash Equivalents</u>: The Academy has defined cash and cash equivalents to include cash on hand, demand deposits, and time deposits with an initial maturity of three months or less.

<u>Investments</u>: The Academy holds investments, where cost equals market value, in the Michigan Liquid Asset Fund investment pool.

<u>Capital Assets</u>: Capital assets purchased or acquired with an original cost of \$5,000 or more are reported at historical cost or estimated historical cost. Contributed assets, if any, are reported at fair market value as of the date received. Additions, improvements, and other capital outlays that significantly extend the useful life of an asset are capitalized. Other costs incurred for repairs and maintenance are expensed as incurred. Depreciation on all assets is provided on the straight-line basis over the following estimated useful lives.

| Computers | 5 years |
|-------------------------|------------|
| Furniture and equipment | 5-20 years |
| Leasehold improvements | 5-30 years |

General capital assets are those that result from expenditures in the governmental funds. These assets are reported in the governmental activities column of the Government-Wide Statement of Net Assets, but are reported in the Fund Financial Statements as capital outlay expenditures.

Accrued Liabilities and Long-Term Obligations: Payables and accrued liabilities that will be paid from governmental funds are reported on governmental fund financial statements regardless of whether they will be liquidated with current financial resources. The non-current portion of compensated absences, that will be paid from governmental funds are reported as a liability in fund financial statements only to the extent that they will be paid with current, expendable, available financial resources (generally, within sixty days of year-end). Other non-current liabilities that will be paid from governmental funds are not recognized as a liability in fund financial statements until due.

<u>Deferred Revenue</u>: The Academy reports deferred revenue when revenue does not meet both the "measurable" and "available" criteria for recognition in the current period, or when resources are received by the Academy before it has a legal claim to them, such as when grant money is received prior to the incurrence of qualifying expenditures. In subsequent periods, when both revenue recognition criteria are met, or when the Academy has legal claim to the resources, the liability for deferred revenue is removed and revenue is recognized.

NOTE A-SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES-Continued

<u>Net Assets</u>: Net assets represent the difference between assets and liabilities. Net assets invested in capital assets, net of related debt, consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, reduced by the outstanding balances of any borrowings used for the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets. Net assets are reported as restricted only when there are limitations imposed on their use through enabling legislation or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, laws, or other government regulation.

<u>Interfund Activity</u>: Interfund activity is reported as loans, services provided, reimbursements, or transfers. Loans are reported as interfund receivables and payables as appropriate and are subject to elimination upon consolidation. Services provided are treated as revenues and expenditures/expenses. Reimbursement occurs when one fund incurs a cost, charges the appropriate benefiting fund, and reduces its related cost as a reimbursement. All other interfund transactions are treated as transfers. Transfers between governmental or proprietary funds are netted as part of the reconciliation to the Government-Wide Financial Statements.

<u>Accounts Payable</u>: Amounts due for expenses incurred but not paid as of June 30 are recorded as accounts payable on the balance sheet.

Employee Compensation and Related Liabilities: Payroll and related withholdings, which have been earned by Academy employees, but not paid as of June 30 are recorded as a liability on the Academy's balance sheet. Substantially all of the Academy's employees participate in the Michigan Public School Employees' Retirement System. The Michigan Public Schools Employees' Retirement System provides additional post-employment benefits.

<u>Fund Balance</u>: The unreserved fund balances represent the amount available for budgeting future operations. The reserved fund balances represent the amount that has been legally identified for specific purposes or indicates that a component of assets does not constitute "available spendable resources." The designated fund balances represent tentative plans for future use of financial resources.

<u>State Revenue</u>: The State of Michigan uses a foundation grant approach that provides for a specific annual amount of revenue per student based on a statewide formula. The foundation is funded from state and local sources. Revenues from state sources are primarily governed by the School Aid Act and the School Code of Michigan. The Michigan Department of Education administers the allocation of state funds to school districts based on information supplied by the districts. For the year ended June 30, 2004, the foundation allowance was based on a weighted average of pupil membership counts.

The Academy also receives revenue from the State to administer certain categorical education programs. State rules require that revenue earmarked for these programs be expended for its specific purpose. Categorical funds received that are not expended by the close of the fiscal year are recorded as deferred revenue.

NOTE A-SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES-Continued

<u>Use of Estimates</u>: The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

<u>Budgets and the Budgetary Process</u>: The Academy follows the budgetary process prescribed by provisions of the State of Michigan Uniform Budgeting and Accounting Act, and entails the preparation of budgetary documents within an established timetable. All funds are legally required to be budgeted and appropriated with the exception of fiduciary funds. The legal level of budgetary control has been established at the functional level with modifications made only by a resolution of the Board. At the close of each year, budget appropriations lapse.

NOTE B-CASH AND INVESTMENTS

Cash and cash equivalents and investments included in the basic financial statements as of June 30, 2004, consist of the following:

| | | Cash & Cash Equivalents | | estments |
|---------------------------------------|----------|----------------------------|----|----------|
| Cash in savings accounts | \$ | 16,543 | | |
| TOTAL CASH DEPOSITS | | 16,543 | \$ | 0 |
| Cash on hand | | 268 | | |
| MILAF funds | | | | 82,137 |
| TOTAL | \$ | 16,811 | \$ | 82,137 |
| Government-Wide Financial Statements: | | | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ | 16,811 | | |
| Investments | Ψ ——— | 10,011 | \$ | 82,137 |
| TOTAL | \$ | 16,811 | \$ | 82,137 |

NOTE B-CASH AND INVESTMENTS-Continued

All accounts are registered in the name of the reporting entity and recorded at cost. Interest is recorded when earned and credited to the applicable account.

The total cash deposits held in financial institutions at June 30, 2004, is \$43,883, of which \$43,883 is insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) under Regulation Number 330.8. This regulation, in summary, provides that deposits of a governmental unit are insured for the lesser of the amount of the combined deposit or \$100,000 for both demand deposits and time deposits in every financial institution, that is not a branch location, that is a member of the FDIC.

The investments included on the combined balance sheet at June 30, 2004, totaling \$82,137, are not subject to categorical risk, as the amount is held in a mutual fund where cost and market value per share is one dollar.

Statutory Authority

Act 196, PA 1997, authorizes the Academy to deposit and invest in:

- 1. Bonds, securities, and other obligations of the United States or an agency or instrumentality of the United States.
- 2. Certificates of deposit, savings accounts, deposit accounts, or depository receipts of a financial institution eligible to be a depository of funds belonging to the State of Michigan under a law or rule of this state or the United States.
- 3. Commercial paper rated at time of purchase within the two highest classifications established by, not less than two, standard rating services and that matures not more than 270 days after the date of purchase.
- 4. Repurchase agreements consisting of instruments issued by the United States or an agency or instrumentality of the United States.
- 5. Bankers' acceptances of United States banks.
- 6. Obligations of the State of Michigan or any of its political subdivisions, that at the time of purchase, are rated as investment grade by not less than one standard rating service.
- 7. Mutual funds registered under the Investment Act of 1940 with the authority to purchase only investment vehicles that are legal for direct investment by a public corporation.

The Academy is in compliance with statutory authority.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS--Continued

NORTH STAR ACADEMY

NOTE C-CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital asset activity for the year ended June 30, 2004, was as follows:

| | Balance July 1, 2003 | Additions Deletions Adjustments | | Balance June 30, 2004 | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Capital assets: | | | | | |
| Computers | \$ 222,899 | | | \$ (222,899) | \$ 0 |
| Furniture and equipment | 17,410 | | | (10,963) | 6,447 |
| Equipment - YES | 2,014 | | | (2,014) | 0 |
| Building | 17,000 | | | (17,000) | 0 |
| Leasehold improvement | 2,840 | | | (2,840) | 0 |
| TOTAL CAPITAL ASSETS | 262,163 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | (255,716) | 6,447 |
| | Balance July 1, 2003 | Additions | Deletions | Adjustments | Balance June 30, 2004 |
| Accumulated depreciation: | | | | | |
| Furniture and equipment | 6,447 | | | | 6,447 |
| Subtotal | 6,447 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 6,447 |
| NET CAPITAL ASSETS | \$ 255,716 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ (255,716) | \$ 0 |

NOTE D--DEFERRED REVENUE

Deferred revenue consists of the following at June 30, 2004:

| Excellence in Education 03-05 Excellence in Education 04-06 Hewlett Packard | \$ 1,500 1,500 2,500 | |
|---|-------------------------------|--|
| TOTAL DEFERRED REVENUE | \$ 5 500 | |

NOTE E-STATE ANTICIPATION NOTE

The Academy utilized a State Anticipation Note, secured by its future State Aid payments, bearing interest at 2.50 percent, with a financial institution on August 20, 2003, with a face value of \$140,000. The total amount of principal and interest was payable on August 20, 2004.

On August 20, 2004, a new State Anticipation Note was issued after repayment of the aforementioned note. The note, secured by future State Aid payments, bearing interest rate at 2.65 percent, with a face value of \$135,000, matures on August 20, 2005.

NOTE F-TRANSFERS

Amounts transferred to and from various individual funds for the year ended June 30, 2004, are as follows:

| Fund | nsfers to er Funds | Fund | | sfers From er Funds |
|---------|-----------------------|--------------|-----|------------------------|
| General | \$ 2,691 | Food Service | \$ | 2,691 |
| | \$ 2,691 | | _\$ | 2,691 |

NOTE G-MICHIGAN UNIFORM BUDGETING AND ACCOUNTING ACT

The Academy's budget is legally adopted by School Board resolution pursuant to the Uniform Budgeting and Accounting Act (P.A. 621 of 1978) and the budget, as presented, has been amended. Capital outlay budgets in the General Fund are not segregated from other educational expenditures for financial statement presentation. The actual General Fund capital outlay of \$0, was budgeted as part of the departmental budgets of instruction and supporting services.

NOTE H-FUND BALANCE

The Academy's financial statements include \$125,056 of fund balance in the General Fund. Of this amount, \$82,000 is reserved for the purchase of land for a new educational building. The remaining \$43,056 is unreserved fund balance available for future year operations.

NOTE I-EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT SYSTEM-DEFINED BENEFIT PLAN

The Academy contributes to the Michigan Public School Employees' Retirement System (MPSERS), a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by the Michigan Department of Management and Budget, Office of Retirement Systems. MPSERS provides retirement, survivor, and disability benefits to public school employees. Eligibility and benefit provisions are governed under Public Act 136 of 1945, recodified and currently operating under the provisions of Public Act 300 of 1980, as amended. MPSERS issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information. The annual report may be obtained by writing to the Department of Management and Budget, Office of Retirement Systems, P.O. Box 30673, Lansing, Michigan 48909-8103, or by calling (517) 322-5103.

The Academy is required by state statute to contribute 12.99 percent of covered payroll from July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2004. Contributions to MPSERS are determined on an actuarial basis using the entry age normal actuarial cost method. Contribution requirements of plan members including the Academy are established and may be amended only by state statute. The Academy's contributions to MPSERS for the years ending June 30, 2004, 2003, and 2002 were \$35,471; \$35,916; and \$33,319, respectively. There were no required contributions payable at June 30, 2004, 2003, or 2002.

Mandatory member contributions were phased out between 1974 and 1977, with the plan remaining noncontributory until January 1, 1987, when the Member Investment Plan (MIP) was enacted. MIP members enrolled prior to January 1, 1990, contribute at a permanently fixed rate of 3.9 percent of gross wages.

The MIP contribution rate was 4.0 percent from January 1, 1987, the effective date of the MIP, until January 1, 1990, when it was reduced to 3.9 percent. Members first hired January 1, 1990, or later and returning members who did not work between January 1, 1987 through December 31, 1989, contribute at the following graduated permanently fixed contribution rate: 3 percent of the first \$5,000; 3.6 percent of \$5,001 through \$15,000; 4.3 percent of all wages over \$15,000. Basic Plan members make no contributions. Contributions collected and remitted by the Academy on behalf of MIP members for the year ending June 30, 2004, 2003, and 2002 were \$10,383; \$10,884; and \$10,221, respectively, equal to the required contributions for each year.

Other Post-Employment Benefits

In addition to the pension benefits, MPSERS provides comprehensive group medical, hearing, dental, and vision coverage for retirees and beneficiaries. A significant portion of the premium is paid by MPSERS with the balance deducted from the monthly pension of the retiree. The portion provided by MPSERS is factored into the pension contribution rate.

NOTE J-OPERATING LEASES

The Academy was obligated under certain building leases accounted for as operating leases during the year ended June 30, 2004. Operating leases do not give rise to property rights or obligations and, therefore, the lease agreements are not reflected as long-term obligations. The Academy's sublease of a portion of one of their buildings renews annually for \$300.

Total rental expense for the year ended June 30, 2004, is \$40,339. The Academy has made the decision to vacate this building at the end of the 2004, and is currently on a month-to-month lease agreement.

NOTE K-RISK MANAGEMENT

The Academy is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. The Academy purchases commercial insurance for its liability and excess liability coverage. The Academy's liability insurance coverage is limited to \$1,000,000 per occurrence with a maximum of \$3,000,000 for all claims. The Academy also maintains excess liability coverage of \$1,000,000 per occurrence with a maximum aggregate of \$1,000,000.

Management is unaware of any pending or threatened claims that would not be covered by their policy that are material to the financial statements.

NOTE L-SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

The Academy is in the process of negotiating a capital lease with an outside party for the acquisition of land and construction of an instructional and administration building. No amounts have been included in the financial statements as the lease had not been finalized as of the date of the audit report.

NOTE M-RESTATEMENT

The fund balance in the general fund at June 30, 2003 has been restated to correct an error. The June 30, 2003 financial statements reflected an incorrect amount of capital outlay expenditures. The effect of this error correction increases beginning fund balance in the general fund from \$20,645 to \$102,645.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE BUDGET AND ACTUAL--GENERAL FUND

NORTH STAR ACADEMY

Year Ended June 30, 2004

| | Budgeted Amounts | | | | | | | |
|--|------------------|----------------|----|---------|----|-------------------------------|----|----------|
| | c | Original Final | | Actual | | Variance with Final Budget | | |
| REVENUES Local sources | \$ | 2,000 | \$ | 35,512 | \$ | 24,648 | \$ | (10,864) |
| State sources | | 439,830 | | 464,930 | | 464,009 | | (921) |
| Federal sources | | 56,572 | | 57,141 | | 54,645 | | (2,496) |
| Other sources | | 21,000 | | 20,961 | _ | 20,961 | | 0 |
| TOTAL REVENUES | | 519,402 | | 578,544 | | 564,263 | | (14,281) |
| EXPENDITURES Current: | | | | | | | | |
| Instruction | | 214,365 | | 236,668 | | 232,042 | | 4,626 |
| Supporting services | | 275,097 | | 321,915 | | 298,839 | | 23,076 |
| Community service direction | | | | 1,753 | | 1,753 | | 0 |
| Facilities acquisition and other transactions | | | | 4,929 | | 6,527 | | (1,598) |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURES | | 489,462 | | 565,265 | | 539,161 | | 26,104 |
| EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES | | 29,940 | | 13,279 | | 25,102 | | 11,823 |
| OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES) Transfer to other funds (net) | | (4,200) | | (2,501) | | (2,691) | | (190) |
| TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES) | | (4,200) | | (2,501) | | (2,691) | | (190) |
| NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE | | 25.740 | | 10,778 | | 22,411 | | 11,633 |
| Fund balance at beginning of year (as restated) | | 20,645 | | 20,645 | | 102,645 | | 82,000 |
| FUND BALANCE AT END OF YEAR | \$ | 46,385 | \$ | 31,423 | \$ | 125,056 | \$ | 93,633 |

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE BUDGET AND ACTUAL--FOOD SERVICE FUND

NORTH STAR ACADEMY

Year Ended June 30, 2004

| | Budgeted | Variance with | | |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| | Original | Final | Actual | Variance with Final Budget |
| REVENUES Local sources State sources Federal sources | \$ 150 <u>8,250</u> | \$ 203 328 7,337 | \$ 203 328 7,452 | \$ 0 0 115 |
| TOTAL REVENUES | 8,400 | 7,868 | 7,983 | 115 |
| EXPENDITURES Food service | 8,400 | 10,369 | 10,674 | 305 |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURES | 8,400 | 10,369 | 10,674 | 305 |
| EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES | 0 | (2,501) | (2,691) | (190) |
| OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES) Transfer to other funds (net) | | 2,501 | 2,691 | 190 |
| TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES) | 0 | 2,501 | 2,691 | 190_ |
| NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE Fund balance at beginning of year | 0 | 0 0 | 0 | 0 |
| FUND BALANCE AT END OF YEAR | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 |



MAKELA, TOUTANT, HILL & NARDI, P.C.

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Michigan Association of CPA's

REPORT ON COMPLIANCE AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Board of Education North Star Academy Ishpeming, Michigan

We have audited the financial statements of North Star Academy as of and for the year ended June 30, 2004, and have issued our report thereon dated September 19, 2004. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Compliance

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether North Star Academy's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered North Star Academy's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a condition, in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce, to a relatively low level, the risk that misstatements in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses.



Board of Education North Star Academy

This report is intended solely for the information of the Board of Education, management, and federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than those specified parties.

Makela, Toutant, Hill & Naidi, P.C.

September 19, 2004